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CARDIFF PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

1. - INSPECTION OF SHIPPING.

The following table shows the number of vessels (foreign and coastwise) inspected by Officers of the Port Health Authority, the number reported to be defective, the number on which defects were remedied and the number reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board during 1943:-

Number Inspected by		Number reported Defective	Number on which Defects were Remedied	Number reported as having or having had during the voyage Infectious Disease on Board
Medical Officer	Sanitary Inspector			
56	605	246	206	24

II. - WATER SUPPLY.

One hundred and twenty-seven samples of drinking water from ships were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The results of the examinations were as follows:-

Satisfactory	...	100
Of moderate purity	...	5
Of doubtful purity	...	11
Contaminated		11
	Total -	127

Notices were served upon the masters of the twenty-two ships having unsatisfactory water on board, and in all instances the tanks were emptied, cleansed and refilled at this port.

III. - INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the nature of 24 cases of notifiable infectious diseases landed from vessels during the year:-

Disease	Number of Cases		Number of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Diphtheria	-	1	1
Erysipelas	-	2	2
Malaria	-	17	11
Measles	-	1	1
Tuberculosis	-	1	1
Typhoid Fever	-	2	2

The cases referred to in the foregoing table were dealt with as follows:-

Disease	Admitted to City Isolation Hospital	Admitted to Royal Hamadryad Seamen's Hospital	Admitted to City Lodge Hospital	Admitted to H.M. Services Hospital	Allowed to return Home	Total
Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	2
Malaria	-	10	-	3	4	17
Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-	-	1
Typhoid Fever	2	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total ...	6	10	1	3	4	24

Twenty-five other cases of infectious disease which were dealt with by port health officers were found to fall properly within the province of urban administration and were referred to the districts to which they belonged, as follows:-

Disease	Cardiff	Barry	Total
Malaria ...	18	2	20
Measles ...	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever ...	1	-	1
Tuberculosis ...	2	1	3
Total ...	22	3	25

Fourteen cases of infectious disease, as follows, were reported to have occurred on six vessels during the voyage and were disposed of prior to arrival at Cardiff:-

Disease	Number of Cases		Number of Vessels concerned
	Passengers	Crew	
Malaria	-	12	4
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Tuberculosis	-	1	1

Cleansing and Disinfestation.- One hundred and eighty-eight seamen discovered to be suffering from scabies received medical baths at the new Public Baths, situated in the Docks area, their clothing being also disinfested. Sixty-six vessels were found to be infested with bed-bugs, and notices were served upon the masters requiring them to take all necessary steps to eradicate the insects. Dirty and verminous beds to the number of one hundred and sixty-four were destroyed.

Venereal Diseases.- The number of cases of venereal disease dealt with at the special treatment centre for seamen at the Royal Hamadryad Seamen's Hospital during the year were as follows:-

Persons attending at the Centre for the First Time					Total Attendances	Aggregate Number of In-patient Days
Syphilis	Soft Chancre	Gonorrhoea	Non-Venereal and undiagnosed conditions	Total		
91	87	294	47	519	7,807	1,959

Sixteen cases of venereal disease came to the knowledge of officers of the Authority during the year and were recommended for treatment at the centre.

Psittacosis.- Ten parrots were dealt with under the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations, 1930, with the object of preventing the introduction of psittacosis.

IV.- MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

Fumigation of vessels by sulphur dioxide or hydrocyanic acid gas was carried out by private contractors under the supervision of officers of the Port Health Authority in 50 instances. The number of rats destroyed by fumigation was 508 (an average of 10·2 per vessel), of which 121 were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination for the detection of plague.

The numbers of deratisation certificates and deratisation exemption certificates issued were 50 and 70 respectively - a total of 120. The fees received by the Port Health Authority in respect of these certificates amounted to £319.4s.0d.

A rat-catcher is employed on all vessels from plague-infected ports and on all grain-laden vessels arriving at the port. By this means 239 rats were caught, 63 of which were submitted to the Department of Zoology of the National Museum of Wales for identification, and 51 of these were subsequently submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination for the detection of plague.

The number of poison baits laid around the docks by the dock owners and by occupiers of premises in the vicinity of the docks under the supervision of officers of the Authority was 215,716, and 2,162 rats and 669 mice were found dead as a result of these measures.

For the purpose of surveying the area around the docks for rats, the district is divided into four areas. Traps are set by the rat-catcher for one week in each area. One hundred and nineteen rats were caught under this scheme, of which 39 were submitted for identification, and 25 of the latter examined for plague.

The following tabular statements give information in the form required by the Minister of Health as to the number of rats destroyed, the measures of rat destruction on plague "infected" or "suspected" vessels or vessels from plague-infected ports, and deratisation certificates and deratisation exemption certificates issued.

Rats destroyed:-

	On Vessels	Docks, Quays Wharves and Warehouses.
Rats destroyed	747	2,281
Rats examined	172	25
Rats infected with plague	-	-

Measures of rat destruction on plague "infected" or "suspected" vessels from plague-infected ports arriving in the port during the year:-

Total number of such Vessels arriving ...	53
Number of such Vessels fumigated by SO_2 ...	-
Number of Rats killed	-
Number of such Vessels fumigated by HCN ...	7
Number of Rats killed	20
Number of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed	6*
Number of Rats killed	70
Number of such Vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out ...	43

Deratisation certificates and deratisation exemption certificates issued during the year:-

Number of Vessels		120
Number of Deratisation Certificates issued:- ...		
After fumigation with -		
HCN	40	
SO_2	10	
HCN and SO_2	-	
After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.	-	
		50
Number of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued		70
Total Certificates issued		120

*Three of these were also fumigated by HCN.

V.- HYGIENE OF CREW SPACES, ETC.

The following is a classification of the nuisances discovered during the year:-

Nationality of Vessel	Number inspected during the Year	Defects of Original Construction	Structural Defects through Wear and Tear	Dirt, Vermin and Other Conditions prejudicial to Health
British	327	25	335	641
Other Nations	278	42	148	117

The following table shows the number of the defects referred to in the preceding table which were remedied at this port:-

Nationality of Vessel	Defects of Original Construction	Structural Defects through Wear and Tear	Dirt, Vermin and other Conditions prejudicial to Health
British	10	327	639
Other Nations	10	141	115

V1.- FOOD INSPECTION.

The Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-1940.- The total quantity of various kinds of unsound foodstuffs withheld from human consumption during the year amounted to 33 tons 17 cwt. 3½ lb.

Ten samples of imported food were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis as follows:-

Butter	...	4
Flour	...	1
Raisins	...	3
Sugar	...	2

Each of the samples was reported to be genuine or to contain preservatives within the limits prescribed in the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., In Food) Regulations.

Three samples of imported food were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination as follows:-

Dehydrated meat	...	1
Butter	...	1
Canned steak	...	1

Each of the samples was reported to be bacteriologically satisfactory.

V11.- MISCELLANY.

Medical Inspection of Aliens.- The following is a summary of the work done during the year in connection with the medical inspection of aliens:-

		Number	Number Inspected by Medical Inspector
Aliens (passengers) landing at the port		64	30
Aliens refused permission to land by Immigration Officer	...	8	-
Total	...	72	30

Number of vessels carrying alien passengers	26
Number of such vessels dealt with by the Medical Inspector	11

Analysis of aliens landing:-

Residents returning	...	...	3
Visitors	...	...	3
Business	...	...	16
Diplomatic	...	...	4
Seamen	...	...	16
Ministry of Labour Permit	...	...	-
Not holding Ministry of Labour Permit:			
Males	...	...	16
Females	...	...	5
Children	...	...	1
Total		...	64

Twenty-two aliens were referred by the Immigration Officer for detailed medical examination.

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The Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1937.- One certificate was issued authorising the master of a foreign ship to purchase dangerous drugs.

Diseases of Animals Acts, etc.- One hundred and sixty-nine dogs, 353 cats, 1 sheep, and 5 pigs were brought to the port on vessles. All the vessles were visited regularly during their stay in port to ensure that the requirements were observed.

Canal Boats.- The Chief Port Sanitary Inspector, who is also Inspector of Canal Boats, made 30 inspections of canal boats and found infringements of the Canal Boats Regulations regarding painting in three instances. Verbal instructions were given, and the infringement was remedied in each case. The number of boats (not propelled by motor) on the register was six*, each with accommodation for two males.

*The Canal was closed and navigation on it ceased in June, 1943, subsequently the six boats on the register were removed as from that period.